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Message Text

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11
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 AF-08 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:DSCHIELE/ATP
APPROVED BY IO - JOHN A. BAKER
ARA:WLUERS
IO/UNP:GBHELMAN
ARA/CAR:JETHYDEN
---------- 127588
R 260137Z AUG 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO FORT BUCHANAN PUERTO RICO
INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211968

PLEASE PASS TO GOVERNOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SHLAUDEMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, RQ, TD

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF 24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO: TRINIDAD/TOBAGO

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 2171

1. AS YOU KNOW THE UN COMMITTEE OF 24 IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 3. THE COMMITTEE IS DIVIDED ON THE QUESTION, BUT WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT IT WILL DECIDE TO POSTPONE FOR ONE YEAR A VOTE ON A RESOLUTION. YOU WILL RECALL THAT LAST YEAR SUCH A MOTION CARRIED BY A VOTE OF 11-9.

2. WE APPRECIATE THE ASSISTANCE YOU AND OTHERS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO HAVE PROVIDED IN HELPING MAKE CONFIDENTIAL

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CLEAR THAT THE STATUS OF PUERTO RICO IS AN INTERNAL MATTER

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OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO AND THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT THIS MATTER IS INAPPROPRIATE FOR DISCUSSION IN INTER-NATIONAL BODIES. IN THIS REGARD, AMBASSADOR FAY IN PORT OF SPAIN HAS SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU WOULD WRITE TO PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS SEEKING HIS SUPPORT IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24. THE AMBASSADOR HAS DISCUSSED THIS WITH SECRETARY OF STATE ALBORS,WHO SUPPORTED THE PROPOSAL.

3. WE AGREE THAT SUCH A LETTER WOULD BE HELPFUL AND COULD MAKE THE DIFFERENCE IN CAUSING TRINIDAD/TOBAGO, WHICH ABSTAINED LAST YEAR, TO SUPPORT A PROCEDURAL MOTION TO DEFER A VOTE ON A RESOLUTION UNTIL NEXT YEAR. SUCH A LETTER COULD USEFULLY MAKE THE POINTS THAT THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO HAVE FREELY CHOSEN COMMONWEALTH STATUS AND THAT THE UN HAS NO AUTHORITY TO TAKE UP THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO'S STATUS OR TO TRY TO IMPOSE SOME OTHER STATUS ON PUERTO RICO AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO. PARTICULAR REFERENCE MIGHT BE MADE TO THE FACT THAT PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS ACTIVE OPPOSITION TO A CUBAN SPONSORED RESOLUTION, OR AT A MINIMUM HIS SUPPORT FOR A MOVE TO DEFER A VOTE ON SUCH A RESOLUTION, WOULD APPEAR APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE FACTS WITH REGARD TO PUERTO RICO AND THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO AND TRINIDAD/TOBAGO.

4. AMBASSADOR FAY HAS INDICATED HE WOULD BE PLEASED TO ASSIST IN THE DELIVERY OF A LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS IF YOU AGREE TO WRITE ONE. IF YOU ARRANGE TO HAVE SUCH A LETTER DELIVERED TO THE EMBASSY IT WILL THEN BE DEL,VERED TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

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Draft Date: 26 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: ACMM, RQ, TD, TO, UNGA, COMMITTEE OF 24
To: FORT LAMY
Type: TE
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